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Dated: March 9, 2005

Signature: Maura A. Gallagher
(Maura A. Gallagher)

Docket No.: MIY-P01-032
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Wagner et al.

Application No.: 10/631364

Confirmation No.: 2195

Filed: July 31, 2003

Art Unit: 3764

For: BIOABSORBABLE CASING FOR
SURGICAL SLING ASSEMBLY

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A copy of each foreign and non-patent reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

Applicant(s) have also become aware of the following documents, cited by the International Searching Authority in the International Search Report issued December 14, 2004, during the prosecution of international application no. PCT/US2004/023842, which corresponds to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and (e)(1) or (b)(3), hereby submits these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited

on the enclosed PTO Form SB/08, and copies of the foreign document cited thereon are enclosed as well

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

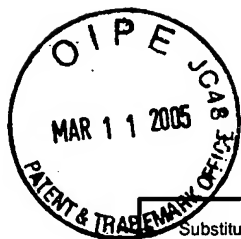
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. MIY-P01-032. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: March 9, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/631364
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	July 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	James Wagner
				Art Unit	3764
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	MIY-P01-032
Sheet	1	of	4		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-2001/0000533-A1	04-26-2001	Kovac, S.R.	
	AB	US-2001/0023356-A1	09-20-2001	Raz et al.	
	AC	US-2002/00127270	09-12-2002	Li et al.	
	AD	US-2002/0013590-A1	01-31-2002	Therin et al.	
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	AL	US-2003/0036676-A1	02-20-2003	Scetbon, V.	
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	AQ	US-2003/0130670-A1	07-10-2003	Anderson et al.	
	AR	US-2003/0171644	09-11-2003	Anderson et al.	
	AS	US-2003/0176762-A1	09-18-2003	Kammerer, G.W.	
	AT	US-2003/0176875	09-18-2003	Anderson et al.	
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	AK1	US-5,078,730	01-07-1992	Li, L.K.	
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Examiner Signature				Date Considered	

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/631364
				Filing Date	July 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	James Wagner
				Art Unit	3764
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	2	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	MIY-P01-032

	AT1	US-5,256,150	10-26-1993	Quiachon et al.	
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	AY1	US-5,395,349	03-07-1995	Quiachon et al.	
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	AA2	US-5,456,722	10-10-1995	McLeod et al.	
	AB2	US-5,505,735	04-09-1996	Li, L.K.	
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	AD2	US-5,544,664	08-13-1996	Benderov et al.	
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
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				First Named Inventor	James Wagner
				Art Unit	3764
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	3	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	MIY-P01-032

	AQ3	US-6,328,686-B1	12-11-2001	Kovac, S.R.	
	AR3	US-6,382,214-B1	05-07-2002	Raz et al.	
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	AT3	US-6,423,080-B1	07-23-2002	Gellman et al.	
	AU3	US-6,440,154-B2	08-27-2002	Gellman et al.	
	AV3	US-6,478,727-B2	11-12-2002	Scetbon, V.	
	AW3	US-6,491,703-B1	12-10-2002	Ulmsten, U.	
	AX3	US-6,494,887-B1	12-17-2002	Kaladelfos, G.	
	AY3	US-6,500,194-B2	12-31-2002	Benderev et al.	
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	AA4	US-6,530,943-B1	03-11-2003	Hoepffner et al.	
	AB4	US-6,582,443	06-24-2003	Cabak et al.	
	AC4	US-6,596,001	07-22-2003	Stormby et al.	
	AD4	US-6,596,002	07-22-2003	Therin et al.	
	AE4	US-6,599,235	07-29-2003	Kovac	
	AF4	US-6,605,097-B1	08-12-2003	Lehe et al.	
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	AH4	US-6,638,209-B2	10-28-2003	Landgrebe, S.	
	AI4	US-6,638,210-B2	10-28-2003	Berger, Y.	
	AJ4	US-6,638,211-B2	10-28-2003	Suslian et al.	
	AK4	US-6,641,525-B2	11-04-2003	Rocheleau et al.	
	AL4	US-6,648,921-B2	11-18-2003	Anderson et al.	
	AM4	US-6,652,450-B2	11-25-2003	Neisz et al.	
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	AO4	US-6,755,781	06-29-2004	Gellman	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	BA	SU-1225547	04-23-1986	N.N. Kanshin et al.		X
	BB	SU-1443873	12-15-1988	A. L. Kosakovskii		X
	BC	WO-97/13465	04-17-1997	Ulmsten		
	BD	WO-98/34545	08-13-1998	Koh et al.		X
	BE	WO-02/32321	04-25-2002	Yeung et al.		
	BF	WO-05/007019	01-27-2005	Jamiolkowski et al.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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				Art Unit	3764
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	4	of	4	Attorney Docket Number	MIY-P01-032

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²	
	CA	Delorme, E. La bandelette trans-obturatrice: un procede mini-invasif pour traiter l'incontinence urinaire d'effort de la femme. Progres en Urologie. 11:1306-13 (2001) (English translation provided)	X	
	CB	Giesy et al. Ureteral Instrumentation: A New System for Continued Access Via a Safety Guidewire. Journal of Urology. No. 4, Part 2, p. 282A (1988)		
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	CI	Raz et al. Fascial Sling to Correct Mail Neurogenic Sphincter Incompetence: The McGuire/Raz Approach." Journal of Urology. Vol. 139: 528-531 (1988)		
	CJ	Schostak et al., "Transvaginal bone anchors in femal stress urinary incontinence: Poor Results." Gynecologic and Obstetric Investigation, Vol. 54, no. 3, pps 154-158, 2002		
	CK	Staskin et al. The Gore-tex sling procedure for female sphincteric incontinence: indications, technique, and results. World J of Urol. 15:5, 295-99 (1997)		
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	CO	Ulmsten et al. Surgery for female urinary incontinence. Current Opinion in Obstetrics & Gynecology. 4:3, 456-62 (1992)		
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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